

March 26, 2018

Dear Parents/Guardians,

With storm season quickly approaching, we know many of you have questions regarding the safety procedures that Moore Public Schools will be following. We want to take this time to review our weather plans with you and assure you that Moore Public Schools continues to work towards preparing our students and staff to respond to Oklahoma's ever changing weather.

Any time there is a risk of severe tornado weather we will follow our district Tornado Sheltering Plan as follows:

Once students are in school, if a severe weather watch or warning is issued, parents have the option of picking up/checking out their student with an excused absence. If someone other than the parent/guardian is checking out a student, please make sure that your child's school has the correct non-parent emergency contact information on file. Please carefully review the following information regarding which schools have storm shelters and which schools shelter in place.

The following schools have storm shelters: Moore High, Westmoore High, Brink Junior High, Central Junior High, Highland East Junior High, Highland West Junior High, Southridge Junior High, Moore West Junior High, Briarwood Elem., Broadmoore Elem., Bryant Elem., Central Elem., Earlywine Elem., Eastlake Elem., Fairview Elem., Fisher Elem., Kelley Elem., Northmoor Elem., Plaza Towers Elem., Sky Ranch Elem., Southgate Elem., South Lake Elem., Timber Creek Elem., and Winding Creek Elem. **Please note that school shelters are not public safety shelters.**

At all other school sites, any time that the storm sirens begin to sound, the school faculty, staff, and students will be sheltering in place. **(Please note: Shelters at many sites are under construction, and ALL sites will have storm shelters by March 2019. These storm shelters are made possible by the passage of the 2015 bond issue).**

Students at each school will follow tornado safety guidelines which include sheltering in the safest refuge areas within each school site or facility. All schools practice fire drills, intruder drills, and tornado drills throughout the year in accordance with state law.

To help prevent head injuries, schools that do not have storm shelters have been provided helmets to wear during emergency situations. All helmets were provided through the "Moore Helmets for Schools" Program.

Buses will be held and not be in transit when there is immediate pending severe weather expected. If the severe weather is unexpected and a bus is in route the bus will seek safety at the nearest school.

In addition, the following information is provided relative to safety precautions:

Each school has a crisis intervention team and a written crisis plan that outlines procedures regarding safety concerns such as intruder, severe weather/tornado, gas leaks, fire, etc.

Weather radios are used in every school to monitor conditions and receive alerts of tornado watches or warnings. School administration or a designee at each school building monitors the weather radio. The Superintendent's office and other district officials are in direct contact with the National Weather Service (NWS) in Norman any time severe weather is anticipated. This occurs through a live feed between NWS and MPS administration. The live feed also allows for real time questions and answers about storm fronts, weather alerts, and overall questions relative to the weather.

I hope the above information has answered many of your questions. However, if you have additional questions please contact your child's principal or feel free to contact me at 735-4249.

Sincerely,



Robert Romines
Superintendent of Schools